In general, you should plan for one gallon of water per person per day for drinking, washing and other needs. If you have pets or children, plan for more to cover their needs as well.

Include canned proteins like tuna and chicken, or vegetarian protein options—and don’t forget a can opener! Other options are fully cooked premade meals with canned fruits and vegetables as well as nutritious grains like whole grain breads and crackers. Don’t forget about allergies and dietary restrictions and food for your pets, too.

Always be sure to have a stocked first aid kit on hand, and before the storm make sure you have enough prescription and over the counter medication for your family.

Other items that might be important to have on hand include flashlights with extra batteries, a weather radio, entertainment options, a tool kit and whatever else will help keep your family safe and comfortable.

When you have all the items ready for your home disaster emergency kit, be sure to store it in one or more plastic bins with lids. This will not only keep the items in your kit together, but also provide some protection from water and the elements. Keep your kit in a designated place in your home and tell all family members where to find it, so if disaster strikes, your family can be ready.

If you were affected by Hurricane Florence, North Carolina has resources that may be able to help. For more information, visit www.nchfa.com/about-us/hurricane-resources.